



Media Release City of Temple

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City of Temple Applying for TIGER 2014 Grant Solicitation

(TEMPLE, TX) April 17, 2014 – The City of Temple is applying for grant funds from the US Department of Transportation, National Infrastructure Investment Grant (TIGER VI) in the amount of \$12,000,000 to use towards the design and construction of bridge and multi-modal street improvements along Central Avenue and 1st Street. A call for solicitation was released in early spring 2014 and the final application is due April 28, 2014. It is anticipated awards will be announced late summer 2014.

The City of Temple is in the process of working with various community groups and boards to revitalize downtown. Thus far, the City has implemented railroad safety zone projects and way-finding projects in downtown. The proposed bridge improvements and multi-modal/streetscape enhancements will further the revitalization of downtown, encouraging economic growth and development in the area.

The proposed project is \$12,000,000 and requires a twenty-percent match from the City. The City is requesting \$10,000,000 in funding from US DOT and will provide a \$2,000,000 match, if the grant is received. Funding is intended to be used towards capital investments in surface transportation.

The project scope involves the following elements:

- Improvements to the downtown Central Avenue bridge;
- Construction of multi-modal transportation options along Central Avenue and 1st Street;
- Development of 1st Street as a connector from downtown to the Linear Trail greenbelt;
- Downtown gateway improvements along Central Avenue and landscaping/streetscape installation; and
- Implementation of the Downtown Master Plan.

“The improvement project serves as a catalyst to further advance the downtown area,” stated City Manager, David Blackburn. “If we are awarded these grant funds, the project will be a great step forward in our efforts to improve both our access to downtown as well as the image of downtown.”



Figure 1 – View of the proposed bridge improvements, with a multi-modal component.



Figure 2 – View of proposed 1st Street, looking north to City Hall parking

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